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WASHINGTON, D. C.

17 May 1976

Dear Admiral Armstrong:

On my return from a long overseas trip I found your letter, for which many thanks. I am happy that you found my talk before the ASC useful. I will be retiring at the end of June. However, I do expect to be in the Bay Area around the 12th of October and would be happy to talk to the Club at that time.

I am enclosing a few of the other talks I have delivered in the hope they may be of interest for your study.

With every good wish,

Faithfully

Vernon A. Walters
Lieutenant General, USA

Enclosures

R. Admiral Henry J. Armstrong,
USN (Ret.)

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Commonwealth Club of California

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30 April, 1976

Lt. General Vernon A. Walters, USA
Deputy Director, CIA.
Langley, Va. 20505

Dear General Walters:

Just recently I had the good fortune to obtain a copy (Washington, Sept. 1975) of Washington Report, in which is printed an outstanding resume of a talk that you delivered at an ASC luncheon. In view of the longstanding flow of condemnations against the CIA this came as a welcome viewpoint. Insofar as I know, your speech has not been published adequately. Why?

The National Defense Study Section of the Commonwealth Club of California has adopted the subject "Who Should Control Secrecy In The National Defense And To What Extent?" for our current study. The topic is most timely and indeed appropriate for these days. Major General E.C. Townsend has agreed to spear-head this study. On 6 May our speaker will be Commander Fred Daigle, USN(Ret), presently Chief of Industrial Security Classification Management, Lockheed Missles & Space Systems Division. Daigle has been closely associated with the secrecy management for several years.

At any time in the future, should your duties direct you to the Bay Area, I would certainly be honored if we could be able to hear you give the same talk to us. For that matter, I do feel that your subject is of such importance that the Club itself should hear the talk. I realize that Mr. Colby addressed the Club some time in the past -- but your particular talk breathes more of what we would like to hear at this time.

My particular experience in the Intelligence Field was Naval Attache, Caracas, Venezuela (1946-48) and J-2 of the Caribbean Command (1952-53).

In the event that you have additional talks, along the line of our study, I would greatly appreciate obtaining a copy.

Very cordially yours

Henry J. Armstrong

RAdm. USN(Ret), Chairman, National Defense Study Section.

Copy to: Vice Chairman, General Townsend.

R. Adm. Henry J. Armstrong
RAdm. USN(Ret.)